

Wolf Telescopes

A Collection of Historical Telescopes

Collection Summary Highlights

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|---|
| 111 telescopes ---> 65 different makers working in 8 countries during 4 centuries |
| 103 telescopes are signed by their maker |
| 1 telescope signed "Dolland" (HRA19); made by an unknown antagonist against Dollond's patents |
| 4 of 8 telescopes unsigned, but have distinguishing characteristics of known makers FRA12 (Bardou?), FRA21 (Secretan?), TRE4 (Cole), and HRA31 (Bardou?) |
| 4 Remaining telescope makers unknown HRE1, TRE14, HBRA2, and HBRA3 |
| Only 5 out of 111 telescopes in the collection are by unknown makers |

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| Selected important telescopes in the collection |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 1/8-inch Alvan Clark and Sons refractor, signed/dated 1867, oldest known S & D Clark held privately • 150-mm Lerebours & Secretan reflector, signed/dated 1866, owned by two former Presidents of Uruguay • 19-mm 3-draw Handheld Mori Nizaemon Masatomi 森仁左衛門正富 refractor, c. 1690-1740 • 100-mm Foucault SECRETAN Serial #4 reflector c.1859; square walnut tube; only 5 others in museums • 100-mm James Short reflector 171/1087=18, 1758 formerly exhibited at Royal Observatory Edinburgh • 53-mm Claude-Simeon Passemant refractor, c. 1750 • 2 1/2-inch, 4 1/4-inch reflectors by refractor makers, Ramsden and Dollond, respectively. Both c. <1800 • 3 1/2-inch, Dollond 12-foot tapered-mahogany refractor, c. 1770s; pole mounted • 1-inch, unsigned petite shagreen handheld reflector (contemporary with Jo Jackson <mid 1700s) |

| Country of Origin/Century Made | 18th | 19th | 20th | 21st | Total | Total% |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|------------|
| Austria | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| England | 30 | 31 | 4 | 0 | 65 | 58 |
| France | 1 | 15 | 6 | 0 | 22 | 20 |
| Germany | 0 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 14 |
| United States | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| China | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Holland | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Japan | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Total# | 33 | 61 | 16 | 1 | 111 | 100 |
| % | 30 | 55 | 14 | 1 | | |

| Telescope Type/Features | Finder | Wood Tube | Tapered Tube | Slow Motion | Storage Case |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Floor Standing | 21 | 9 | 6 | 14 | 20 |
| Tabletop Refractors | 5 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 9 |
| Tabletop Reflectors | 8 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 9 |
| Handheld Refractors | na | 21 | 5 | na | 20 |
| Total | 34 | 36 | 14 | 23 | 58 |

| Telescope Type/Number | Number | Number | Number | Totals |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Floor Standing Refractors (FRA) | 29 | FRA=29 | FS=29 | Floor=36 |
| Tabletop Refractors (TRA) | 18 | TRA=18 | T=18 | |
| Floor standing Reflector (FRE) | 1 | FRE=1 | FS=1 | |
| Tabletop Reflectors (TRE) | 18 | TRE=18 | T=18 | Tabletop=37 |
| Handheld Reflectors (HRE) | 1 | HRE=1 | HH=1 | |
| Handheld Refractors (HRA) | 34 | HRA=34 | HH=33 | Handheld=38 |
| Binoculars (HBRA, TBRA and FBRA) | 7 | BRA=7 | HH=3, T=1, FS=3 | |
| Floor Standing Surveying Instr. (FSA) | 3 | FRA=3 | FS=3 | |
| Total | 111 | 111 | 111 | 111 |

| Parameters | Range | Magnitude | Materials |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|--|
| Weight | 0.2 to 350 lb. | 2,188x | Mahogany Oak, Walnut Brass, Steel, Aluminum Glass Ivory, Leather Parchment Gold Leaf, Silk Gutta Percha |
| Optical Path Length | 1 to 135 inch. | 135x | |
| Object. Diam. | 0.5 to 5.3 inch. | light gather 112x | |
| Mirror Diam. | 1 to 6 inch. | light gather 36x | |
| Year Made | 1730? To 2002 | span 272 yrs | |
| Functionality % | Mechanically | >95% | |
| Functionality % | Optically | >95% | |
| Quality % | Museum | >95% | |

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| Country and Name of Maker | Number |
|---|-----------|
| Austria | 2 |
| Simon Plossl | 2 |
| China | 1 |
| Zeiss Military/Kuhne (Conn. USA) | 1 |
| England | 65 |
| Adams | 2 |
| Dudley Adams | 2 |
| Armstrong & Bro | 1 |
| John Bennett (I) | 1 |
| Berge, London late Ramsden | 1 |
| John Bloore | 1 |
| G. (George) Bracher | 1 |
| William Cary | 3 |
| Alexander Clarkson | 1 |
| Benjamin Cole case with fitted telescope | 1 |
| Benjamin Dancer | 1 |
| Dolland-unkn protestor/profiteer of Dollond | 1 |
| Dollond (Peter, Geo.Jr.,William, & J.R.Chant) | 15 |
| John Gilbert (II) | 1 |
| Gregory Gilbert & Co. | 1 |
| Grubb-Parsons | 1 |
| Harris | 1 |
| H. Hughes and Son | 1 |
| David Jones | 1 |
| W & S Jones | 2 |
| Edward Nairne | 2 |
| Nairne & Blunt | 1 |
| Negretti Zambra | 1 |
| James Parkes and Son | 1 |
| James Potts | 1 |
| Jesse Ramsden | 7 |
| Andrew Ross | 3 |
| Spencer, Browning and Rust | 1 |
| James Short | 1 |
| Simms | 1 |
| J. H. Steward | 1 |
| Troughton & Simms | 2 |
| Watson | 1 |
| Unsigned/unknown | 3 |
| France | 23 |
| Bardou and Fils | 2 |
| Bardou and Son | 2 |
| Unsigned, stamped "Brevete SGDG" | 1 |
| Howell, James & Co Paris | 1 |
| L'Ing. Chavallier Opticien du ROI a Paris | 1 |
| Lemaire | 1 |
| Lerebours et Secretan | 2 |
| R. Mailhat | 1 |
| Claude-Simeon Passemant | 1 |
| Secretan | 7 |
| L Foucault/SECRETAN | 1 |
| Unsigned - may be Bardou or Secretan? | 3 |

| | |
|---|------------|
| Germany | 15 |
| Mich. Baader in Munchen | 1 |
| Irrgang | 1 |
| G. & S. Merz vorm. Utz. und Fraunhofer | 1 |
| Merz, Utzschneider und Fraunhofer | 2 |
| Merz und Sohn | 1 |
| Steinheil | 1 |
| Utzschneider und Fraunhofer | 4 |
| Utzschneider Reichenbach und Fraunhofer | 1 |
| Carl Zeiss Jena | 3 |
| Japan | 1 |
| Mori Nizaemon Masatomi 森仁左衛門正富 | 1 |
| Holland | 1 |
| L. van der Bildt | 1 |
| USA | 4 |
| Alvan Clark | 1 |
| Brashear | 1 |
| Gurley | 1 |
| Questar | 1 |
| Total | 111 |

| Selected Premier Makers | Number |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Dollond | 15 |
| Secretan | 9 |
| Jesse Ramsden | 7 |
| Utzschneider und Fraunhofer | 4 |
| Adams | 4 |
| Bardou | 4 |
| Carl Zeiss Jena | 3 |
| G & S Merz | 3 |
| William Cary | 2 |
| W & S Jones | 2 |
| Edward Nairne | 2 |
| Andrew Ross | 2 |
| Troughton & Simms | 2 |
| J. H. Steward | 1 |
| James Short | 1 |
| Berge, late Ramsden | 1 |
| Brashear | 1 |
| Alvan Clark | 1 |
| Benjamin Cole | 1 |
| JB Dancer | 1 |
| Merz und Sohn | 1 |
| Claude-Simeon Passemant | 1 |
| Simon Plossl | 1 |
| Spencer, Browning and Rust | 1 |
| Lubertus van der Bildt | 1 |
| Watson | 1 |
| Mori Nizaemon Masatomi | 1 |